

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An optical component, comprising:
 a substrate;
 an optical material layer which is formed on this substrate;
 an organosilicon resin layer which covers this optical material layer; and
 a solid component which is stacked on this organosilicon resin layer;
 wherein the optical material layer is prepared by drying a material containing any of a hydrolyzed solution of metal alkoxide, a solution of a polymer and a polymerizable monomer dissolved in an organic solvent, ~~and/or~~ a solution of an ionic bond crystal material dissolved in a solvent; and the optical material layer has a wave-like thickness unevenness;
and
 the organosilicon resin layer is coated on the surface of the optical material layer after drying and corrects the wave-like unevenness to optically uniform.
2. (Original) The optical component according to claim 1, wherein a spacer which surrounds an outer periphery of the optical material layer is provided between the substrate and the solid component, the spacer being formed to have a thickness larger than that of the optical material layer.
3. (Currently Amended) The optical component according to claim 1, wherein a spacer is formed between the substrate and the solid component by curing an outer periphery of the optical material layer, the spacer being formed to have a thickness larger than ~~that of an~~ inner portion ~~of the outer periphery~~ of the optical material layer.
4. (Currently Amended) An optical component, comprising a substrate, an optical material layer which is formed on this substrate, an organosilicon resin layer which

covers this optical material layer, and a spacer which surrounds an outer periphery of the optical material layer, wherein: the optical material layer is prepared by drying a material containing any of a hydrolyzed solution of metal alkoxide, a solution of a polymer and a polymerizable monomer dissolved in an organic solvent, ~~and or~~ a solution of an ionic bond crystal material dissolved in a solvent, and the optical material layer has a wave-like thickness unevenness; and

the spacer is formed to have a thickness larger than that of the optical material layer; and

the organosilicon resin layer is coated on the surface of the optical material layer after drying and corrects the wave-like thickness unevenness to optically uniform.

5. (Currently Amended) An optical component, comprising a substrate, an optical material layer which is formed on this substrate, an organosilicon resin layer which covers this optical material layer, and a spacer which is formed by curing an outer periphery of the optical material layer, wherein: the optical material layer is prepared by drying a material containing any of a hydrolyzed solution of metal alkoxide, a solution of a polymer and a polymerizable monomer dissolved in an organic solvent, ~~and or~~ a solution of an ionic bond crystal material dissolved in a solvent, and the optical material layer has a wave-like thickness unevenness;

and the spacer is formed to have a thickness larger than that of an inner portion of the outer periphery of the optical material layer; and

the organosilicon resin layer is coated on the surface of the optical material layer after drying and corrects the wave-like thickness unevenness to optically uniform.

6. (Currently Amended) The optical component according to claim 1, wherein a refractive index of the optical material layer is ~~approximately~~ the same as a refractive index of the organosilicon resin layer.

7. (Previously Presented) The optical component according to claim 1, wherein the optical material layer is formed of the metal alkoxide, and the metal alkoxide contains Si alkoxide as a main ingredient.

8. (Previously Presented) The optical component according to claim 1, wherein; the optical material layer is formed of a single material having a refractive index of n ; and a refractive index n_0 of the organosilicon resin layer satisfies $n - 0.05 < n_0 < n + 0.05$.

9. (Previously Presented) The optical component according to claim 4, wherein; the optical material layer is formed of a single material having a refractive index of n ; and a refractive index n_0 of the organosilicon resin layer satisfies $n - 0.05 < n_0 < n + 0.05$.

10. (Previously Presented) The optical component according to claim 5, wherein; the optical material layer is formed of a single material having a refractive index of n ; and a refractive index n_0 of the organosilicon resin layer satisfies $n - 0.05 < n_0 < n + 0.05$.

11. (Previously Presented) The optical component according to claim 1, wherein: the optical material layer comprises a material having a refractive index of n_1 and a material having a refractive index of n_2 , n_1 being smaller than n_2 ; and a refractive index n_0 of the organosilicon resin layer satisfies $n_1 < n_0 < n_2$.

12. (Previously Presented) The optical component according to claim 4, wherein: the optical material layer comprises a material having a refractive index of n_1 and a material having a refractive index of n_2 , n_1 being smaller than n_2 ; and a refractive index n_0 of the organosilicon resin layer satisfies $n_1 < n_0 < n_2$.

13. (Previously Presented) The optical component according to claim 5, wherein: the optical material layer comprises a material having a refractive index of n_1 and a material having a refractive index of n_2 , n_1 being smaller than n_2 ; and a refractive index n_0 of the organosilicon resin layer satisfies $n_1 < n_0 < n_2$.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) The optical component according to claim 11, wherein: the optical material layer is formed of three or more types of materials including a material having a maximum refractive index n_{\max} and a material having a minimum refractive index n_{\min} ; and the refractive index n_0 of the organosilicon resin layer satisfies $n_{\min} < n_0 < n_{\max}$.

16. (Original) The optical component according to claim 12, wherein: the optical material layer is formed of three or more types of materials including a material having a maximum refractive index n_{\max} and a material having a minimum refractive index n_{\min} ; and the refractive index n_0 of the organosilicon resin layer satisfies $n_{\min} < n_0 < n_{\max}$.

17. (Original) The optical component according to claim 13, wherein: the optical material layer is formed of three or more types of materials including a material having a maximum refractive index n_{\max} and a material having a minimum refractive index n_{\min} ; and the refractive index n_0 of the organosilicon resin layer satisfies $n_{\min} < n_0 < n_{\max}$.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) An optical recording medium, wherein the solid component in the optical component according to claim 1 is configured to serve as a translucent substrate provided parallel to the substrate.

20. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A manufacturing method for an optical component, comprising the steps of:

applying to a substrate a material among materials containing any of a hydrolyzed solution of metal alkoxide, a solution of a polymer and a polymerizable monomer dissolved in an organic solvent, ~~and-or~~ a solution of an ionic bond crystal material dissolved in a solvent;

forming a gel-like or solid-like optical material layer which has a wave-like thickness unevenness by removing a solvent from the applied material through drying;

coating this gel-like or solid-like optical material layer with an organosilicon resin layer and correcting the wave-like thickness unevenness to optically uniform; and

stacking a solid component on the organosilicon resin layer, with the optical material layer and the organosilicon resin layer sandwiched between the substrate and the solid component.

21. (Withdrawn) The manufacturing method for an optical component according to claim 20, comprising the step of surrounding an outer periphery of the optical material layer with a spacer having a thickness larger than a maximum thickness of the outer periphery, and

wherein: a solution material containing the optical material is injected inside a portion surrounded by the spacer; and

the solid component is abutted onto the spacer to position the solid component with respect to the substrate.

22. (Withdrawn) The manufacturing method for an optical component according to claim 20, comprising the step of curing an outer periphery of the optical material layer such that a height thereof is larger than a thickness of an inner portion thereof, and

wherein the solid component is stacked so as to abut onto the cured outer periphery.

23. (Withdrawn) The manufacturing method for an optical component according to claim 22, wherein, after the outer periphery of the optical material layer is pressed to make the height uniform, the outer periphery is irradiated with a ray for curing.

24. (Withdrawn) A manufacturing method for an optical recording medium, wherein the solid component in the step of stacking the solid component according to claim 20 is a translucent substrate.

25. (Currently Amended) The optical component according to claim 4, wherein a refractive index of the optical material layer is ~~approximately~~ the same as a refractive index of the organosilicon resin layer.

26. (Currently Amended) The optical component according to claim 5, wherein a refractive index of the optical material layer is ~~approximately~~ the same as a refractive index of the organosilicon resin layer.

27. (Previously Presented) The optical component according to claim 4, wherein the optical material layer is formed of the metal alkoxide, and the metal alkoxide contains Si alkoxide as a main ingredient.

28. (Previously Presented) The optical component according to claim 5, wherein the optical material layer is formed of the metal alkoxide, and the metal alkoxide contains Si alkoxide as a main ingredient.

29. (New) The optical component according to claim 2, wherein a space is provided between the outer periphery of the optical material layer and an inner periphery of the spacer.